

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 124

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 142

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 124—Relative to recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Interstate Highway System, especially in California.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 8, 2006.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 124, Lowenthal. Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

This measure would recognize the 50th anniversary of the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

WHEREAS, On June 29, 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956 to establish a 41,000-mile National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, known as the Interstate Highway System, and the Highway Revenue Act of 1956 to create the national Highway Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, In 1990, the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways was renamed the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways to recognize President Eisenhower's role in the creation of the system; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, this network of superhighways, now spanning a total of 46,876 miles throughout the United States, has had a powerful and positive impact on our national life; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, this network of superhighways, primary Interstate Routes 5, 10, 15, 40, and 80 throughout the great State of California, has had a powerful and positive impact on our California life style; and

WHEREAS, This system was designed and engineered by Department of Transportation (Caltrans) employees and the retired employees of the California Division of Highways, Caltrans' predecessor agency, and today is managed and maintained by the employees of Caltrans for the benefit of all Californians and our visitors; and

WHEREAS, The Interstate Highway System has proven vital in transporting people and goods from one region to another speedily and safely; and

WHEREAS, The Interstate Highway System has facilitated trade and commerce both within our national borders and globally and helped create unprecedented economic expansion and opportunities for millions of Californians and our visitors; and

WHEREAS, The Interstate Highway System has brought diverse communities throughout our country and state closer together and kept us connected to one another as well as to the larger world; and

WHEREAS, The Interstate Highway System has made it easier and often more enjoyable to travel to long-distance destinations and spend time with family members and friends who live far away; and

WHEREAS, The Interstate Highway System is a pivotal component in our national system of defense and emergency preparedness efforts; and

WHEREAS, The Interstate Highway System remains one of our state's paramount assets as well as a symbol of human ingenuity and freedom; and

WHEREAS, This anniversary provides an occasion to both honor one of the largest public works achievements of all time and reflect on how it can remain effective in the years ahead; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature recognizes the Golden Anniversary Year of the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways; and be it further

Resolved, That the achievements of the current and retired employees of Caltrans, its predecessor agency, the California Division of Highways, and the highway construction industry, including contractors, materials producers, equipment companies, and affiliated labor unions, are recognized for their contributions to the construction of the Interstate Highway System; and be it further

Resolved, That citizens, communities, government agencies, and other organizations are encouraged to promote and participate in celebratory and educational activities marking this uniquely important and historic milestone; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.